

Committee of the Whole

February 12, 2013

The Committee of the Whole of the Benton County Quorum Court met Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Quorum Court Room, County Administration Building, Third Floor, 215 East Central, Bentonville, Arkansas.

14 JPs Present: McKenzie, J. Harrison, Allen, K. Harrison, Adams, Jones, Sandlin, Anglin, Blaty, Curry, Carr, Moore, Meyers, Moehring

Others Present: County Judge Bob Clinard, Circuit Judge Tom Smith, Assessor Glen “Bear” Chaney, County Attorney George Spence, Administrator of General Services John Sudduth, Administrator of Public Services Scott Stober, Comptroller Sarah Daniels, D.E.M. Director Robert McGowen, Grants and Property Accounting Administrator Kati Rose

Media: Tom Sissom - Daily Record

Chair Kurt Moore called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

JP J. Harrison made motion to suspend the rules and read all resolutions and ordinances by title only, seconded by JP Carr.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

A. CNG Fuel Presentation: Craig Hull – Fuels & Supplies, Springdale, AR

Craig Hull of Fuels & Supplies, Springdale, Arkansas presented a brief summary of the presentation that had been presented to the Transportation Committee on January 10, 2013, which was a proposal for a privately owned company to build a compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station, and to lease county property near the Road Department on Southwest 14th Street in Bentonville as a site for a compressed natural gas station to serve county vehicles and be open to the public as well. He stated that the cost to convert one of the 10 Tahoes for the Sheriff’s Office is \$12,750, and with an average annual use of 30,000 miles at 17.7 mpg the county would recover the cost in 4.5 years and could expect an annual fuel savings of \$27,966.

JP Moore stated that he has done research and found that vehicles converted to compressed natural gas fuel also have a higher resale value.

Craig Hull stated that with current prices, conversion is most feasible to vehicles with mileage rates of 18 miles per gallon or less. He stated it takes a bigger space to store the equivalent amount of compressed natural gas (CNG), and that little cars and little compartments don’t work well. He added

that CNG is the technology that makes sense for local delivery and short-haul fleets, transit, and school buses.

Lengthy discussion was held on the price stability for compressed natural gas, the performance of a converted vehicle, and potential traffic problems in the station area.

JP McKenzie stated that he could not move forward on a plan that made use of county property without putting it out for bids.

Craig Hull stated that his company would be willing to go through a bid process if that's what the county requires. He stated that Fuels & Supplies is looking for fleets; they want to reduce overhead costs. He stated that the proposed lease that has been submitted states that there is a 20% reduction in fuel costs as an incentive. He stated this is going to take commitment in order for it to work, but it will be worth it in the long run.

JP Anglin stated that she could not support this proposal without first seeking information about propane fuel, and the comparative value of using propane as a fuel rather than compressed natural gas (CNG).

JP K. Harrison stated that before we make a comment it would be a good idea to open up the process for bids.

No further action was taken by the justices of the peace on the compressed natural gas (CNG) proposal.

JP Jones made motion to move Item "P" to the beginning of the agenda, seconded by JP K. Harrison.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

P. Resolution Request: Amending Resolution R 2013-01 Authorizing the County Judge to Apply for Drug Court Grant

Grants and Property Accounting Administrator Kati Rose stated that this amended resolution states that the County will satisfy a supplemental match for all training required by the grantor and any additional salary increases for Drug Court personnel, from the grant application date going forward, and amends Resolution R-2013-01 to add certain language required by the granting authority and supersedes that resolution in full.

JP Jones made motion to approve and forward the proposed amended resolution to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP Sandlin.

Discussion was held on the application for the Drug Court grant and the additional salary increases for the Drug Court personnel.

Circuit Court-Division III Judge Tom Smith stated that the employees of the Drug Court are dedicated employees. He stated that the Drug Court has a mentoring program that is done by one of the local churches, and invited the court to attend the Drug Court program.

Michelle Barrett stated that she has been with the Drug Court program since 2005 and has seen the program grow from 25 clients to currently 115. She added that they are seeing great results; that more than 70% of their clients graduate, and of those 90% do not come back into the judicial system.

Circuit Court Judge Smith stated that Drug Court is typically held on the third Thursday and Friday of the month and that the Phase I clients come in twice a month on Thursday.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

B. Resolution Request: Authorizing the County Judge to Submit Application for the State of Arkansas County Voting System Grant Program

JP Jones stated that this resolution request is to apply for a \$10,732 grant through the State of Arkansas County Voting System Grant.

JP Jones made motion to approve and forward the proposed resolution to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP J. Harrison.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

C. Resolution Request: Authorizing a Waiver of Policy in the Benton County Salary-Administration Program regarding the pay rates in Various Positions and Departments

JP Sandlin made motion to approve and forward the proposed resolution to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP Jones.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

D. Appropriation Ordinance Request: Transfer of Funds, Emergency Services, SHSGP FY 11 Grant, Fund 315, Dept. 30

JP J. Harrison stated that this appropriation ordinance request is to transfer monies between categories and line items from the State Homeland Security SHSGP FY 11 Grant.

JP J. Harrison made motion to approve and forward the proposed appropriation ordinance to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP McKenzie.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

E. Appropriation Ordinance Request: Transfer of Funds, Emergency Services, LETPP FY11 Grant, Fund 316, Dept. 30

JP Jones stated that this appropriation ordinance request is to transfer monies between categories and line items from the Law Enforcement Terrorist and Prevention Program Grant.

JP Jones made motion to approve and forward the proposed appropriation ordinance to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP Adams.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

F. Appropriation Ordinance Request: Amend Schedule 1 – Revenues by Fund – BC Internet Crimes Against Children Grant, Fund 325, Dept. 05

JP J Harrison stated that this appropriation ordinance request was approved and forwarded from the Finance Committee and is for expenses related to education and training.

JP J. Harrison made motion to approve and forward the proposed appropriation ordinance to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP Jones.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

G. Appropriation Ordinance Request: Amend Schedule 1 – Revenues by Fund to Create New Fund “Department of Human Service Division of Youth Services – Title II Grant Fund, Fund 477, Dept 20

JP Moehring stated that this appropriation ordinance request is to appropriate funds to create a female specific juvenile service by the Juvenile Probation Office and the Teen Action Support Center to implement a program called “Girls Circle” that targets girls between ages 12-18 and is 100% grant funded.

JP Moehring made motion to approve and forward the proposed appropriation ordinance to the January 24, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP J. Harrison.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

H. Appropriation Ordinance Request: Amend Schedule 1 – Revenues by Fund to Create New Fund “Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality E-Waste Grant Fund,” Dept. 38, Fund 317

JP Blaty stated that this appropriation ordinance request is for the Environmental Services Department and is for the Benton County Clean-up and is to provide food and water for the volunteers.

JP Blaty made motion to approve and forward the proposed appropriation ordinance to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP Jones.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

I. Appropriation Ordinance Request: Non-Departmental Maintenance, Fund 010

JP Curry made motion to approve and forward the proposed appropriation ordinance to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP Sandlin.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

J. Appropriation Ordinance Request: Road Department, Fund 020, Dept.44

JP Moehring stated that this appropriation ordinance request is for funds out of the returned to appropriations to purchase additional equipment for the Road Department.

JP Moehring made motion to approve and forward the proposed ordinance to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP Jones.

Administrator of Public Services Scott Stober stated this appropriation ordinance request is to allow the Road Department to purchase 2 new 2013 Kenworth dump trucks, a 2008 Fuel and Lube Service Truck with 15,000 miles and a new Mini Excavator.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

K. Appropriation Ordinance Request: Jail, Fund 931, Dept. 67

JP Jones stated that this appropriation ordinance request is to upgrade laundry equipment already approved in the 2013 Budget, and to purchase I-Phones and new uniforms.

JP Jones made motion to approve and forward the proposed ordinance request to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP K. Harrison.

Discussion was held on the appropriation ordinance request and the items to be purchased for the Jail.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

L. Appropriation Ordinance Request: Amend Schedule 1 – Revenues by Fund Create New Line Item “Reimburse Drug Screening” Number 8626, Dept. 64, Circuit Court, Division III, Fund 460

JP J. Harrison stated that this appropriation ordinance request is to create a new line item named “Reimburse Drug Screening” to receive \$400 in revenue for confirmation drug tests for the Adult Drug court.

JP J. Harrison made motion to approve and forward the proposed ordinance request to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP Jones.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

M. Appropriation Ordinance Request: Road Dept. Bridge Projects, Dept. 45, Fund 440

JP Jones stated this that appropriation ordinance request to appropriate \$281,106 for additional engineering for the 2013 bridge projects.

JP Jones made motion to approve and forward the proposed appropriation ordinance request to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP K. Harrison.

County Judge Bob Clinard stated that in 2011, engineers estimated \$1.6 million to repair the Fisher Ford Bridge and the court approved \$1.2 million, which did not include the engineering fees. He stated that a Federal Grant has been approved for \$1,120,000, or 80% of the actual costs, and that since they received Federal funds additional engineering will be required at a cost of \$137,000.

He stated that the Fisher Ford Bridge will go out for bid by August they should have a contract by the end of September, and the new bridge should be finished by next summer. County Judge Bob Clinard stated that the money from the Federal grant has to be obligated by September 30, 2013, and that he would like approval from the court to go ahead and sign the engineer’s supplemental request for funds contract. He said that that he would have them put a cancellation clause in the contract, just in case the Federal funds are not received.

Motion passed to forward the Road Department Bridge Projects appropriation ordinance request to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court by unanimous show of hands vote.

JP Jones made motion to give County Judge Bob Clinard approval to go ahead with the engineer’s contract with the contingency that the Federal funds are received, seconded by JP Sandlin.

Motion passed by show of hands vote.

14 yeas:	J. Harrison, Allen, K. Harrison, Adams, Jones, Sandlin, Anglin, Blaty Curry, Car, Moore, Meyers, Moehring
1 abstain:	McKenzie
1 absent:	District 2

N. Appropriation Ordinance Request: Amending *Schedule 4 Personnel and Compensation Authorization* – Re-organization and Re-grades of Various Positions, and Various Departments

JP Sandlin stated this appropriation ordinance request it for the re-organization and re-grades for various departments and was forwarded from Personnel to Finance and onto the Committee of the Whole.

JP Sandlin made motion to approve and forward the proposed appropriation ordinance request to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP J. Harrison.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

O. Appropriation Ordinance Request: To Appropriate Additional Salary Expenses due to Re-organization and Re-grades of Various Departments

JP Sandlin stated this appropriation ordinance request for the reorganization and re-grades of various department is saving the county \$25,432.

JP Sandlin made motion to approve and forward the proposed appropriation ordinance request to the February 28, 2013 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP Jones.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JP Sandlin announced that the Personnel Committee will meet Thursday, February 21, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

JP Carr announced that the Public Safety Committee will meet Wednesday, February 27, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

JP Sandlin announced that the Legislative Committee will meet Monday, March 04, 2013 @ 6:00 p.m.

JP Allen announced that the Finance Committee will meet Tuesday, March 05, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

County Judge Bob Clinard stated the U.S. Metal appeal hearing will be held February 25, 2013, on site at 2:00 p.m. to view the site, and will continue at 4:00 p.m. in the Quorum Court room.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion and second meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.